

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 03851 061250Z
ACTION SS-25

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R 060949Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9903
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USNATO 1657

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 3851

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT SOCI RO HU
SUBJECT: THOUGHTS OF JAMOS BEREZ

REF: STATE 134683

1. BEREZ'S REMARKS STRIKE US AS HONEST, CANDID, INTELLIGENT, AND INSIGHTFUL, WITHIN LIMITS OF DECENCY. IT WOULD BE A PLEASURE IF ALL SENIOR EE OFFICIALS, INCLUDING ROMANIAN, WERE CONSISTENTLY FORTHCOMING IN THIS WAY: SUCH AN APPROACH IS TOO RARE EVEN HERE.

2. RE PARA 9 REFTTEL ON RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA, IN FIRST INSTANCE WE TAKE HIS DESCRIPTION OF GROWING CONCERN IN HUNGARY FOR TRANSYLVANIAN MAGYAR MINORITY AT FACE VALUE AS ACCURATE FACTUAL REPORTING. HE SHOULD KNOW. AT NO
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PAGE 02 BUCAR 03851 061250Z

POINT, HOWEVER, DOES HE SAY WHY THIS CONCERN IS GROWING, AND QUERIES FROM US INTERLOCUTORS MIGHT HAVE BEEN USEFUL.

3. SECONDLY, WHILE SOME OF THE QUESTIONS HE CLAIMS ARE BEING ASKED IN HUNGARY REFLECT INACCURATE FACTUAL INFORMATION (EG ALLEGED REMOVAL OF CHURCH LIBRARIES) AND A POSSIBLE ANTI-ROMANIAN BIAS, NEVERTHELESS THE

PSYCHOLOGICAL TONE AND EMOTIONAL INTENSITY HE PROTRAYS
ARE INTERESTING, AND HIS REPORT SEEMS REASONABLE TO US.

4. FINALLY, BERECH SEEMS TO BE IMPLYING THAT THE GOH
AND THE HUNGARIAN PARTY WILL TAKE MORE INTEREST IN THE
TRANSYLVANIAN MAGYARS, PARTLY IN REASPNSE TO "PUBLIC
PRESSURE" AND PARTLY BECAUSE "IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO
DO." CONSEQUENTLY, WE CAN PROBABLY EXPECT CONTINUING
GOH PRESSURE ON THE GOR, ALBEIT DISCREETLY EXPRESSED
AND VARIED IN FORM, AND A CONTINUING GOR COUNTER-
CAMPAIGN WHICH WILL CERTAINLY BE IN PUBLIC AND WILL BE
KEYED TO US AS WELL AS ROMANIAN AUDIENCES, THE
RECENT EXAMPLES OF WHICH WERE REPORTED IN BUCHAREST 3832.
AGGREY

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